ST. JAMES' ANGLICAN CHURCH

The Third Sunday of Advent Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.

December 11, 2022

Incumbent: The Reverend Canon John Anderson

Director of Music: Jeff Campbell

Scripture readings will be found in the NIV red colour bible, and the hymn numbers correspond to the blue Common Praise, both found in your pews.

<u>Prelude</u> "Andante" *Jeff Campbell, organ*

Christopher von Gluck

Processional Hymn 97 "Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring"

St. Thomas

Welcome

Advent Candle Lighting

The Gospel of John speaks of Christ as the true light coming into the world. In commemoration of that coming, we light candles for the four weeks leading to Christmas and reflect on the coming of Christ. It is significant that the church has always used that language--the coming of Christ--because it speaks to a deep truth. Christ IS coming. Christ IS ALWAYS coming, always entering a troubled world, a wounded heart. Episcopal, USA, Candle Liturgy

Candle of Joy Rosemarie and Dave Freeman

We have lit the first two candles, one for HOPE and one for PEACE. Today we light the third candle, the candle of JOY. This should be the easy one, because JOY is all around us--in the children, the lights, the music, the gathering together. But how often do we let our preparations--or our memories--push JOY to the side? JOY is like an underground spring that wells up within us, but JOY is also a choice, an attitude. Like a muscle, it needs to be exercised. So today we open ourselves to JOY, trusting that God has already planted it in us...all we need to do is give it care and offer to share.

Loving God, we open ourselves to you, trusting that this is how you made up: you created us for joy-filled hearts and lives. Show us the creative power of hope. Teach us the peace that comes from justice. Fill us with the kind of joy that cannot be contained, but must be shared. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you that we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.

Candle Lighting "Candles Glowing" see back of bulletin for music

Verse 3

Candles glowing, promise showing joy that fills our very soul.

Grace abounding, hymns resounding, Christ restores and makes us whole.

Mercies gleaming, wonders beaming, justice streaming. Christ redeeming:

Christ restores and makes us whole! Christ restores and makes us whole!

Gathering of the Community

Called to be God's people, we gather in joy-filled celebration of our Creating God. We celebrate the Godly miracles of creation we experience every day and night.

Called to be a people of faith, we gather to praise our Eternal and Loving God. Faithful God, we gather to give our thanks that your promises are totally reliable.

Called to be a people of hope and trust, we gather to give thanks for God's care and compassion towards people who are vulnerable to life's fears and stresses. Justice-loving God, we give thanks that your love and mercy are the source and power behind God's commitments to the created world and towards all humanity; and especially towards vulnerable, dispossessed and isolated people in our midst. Amen. (Psalm 146: 5-10)

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Trisagion 707 Sung 3x

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy immortal one, have mercy on us.

Gathering Prayer

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *Common Worship: Additional Collects* (2004) alt

Proclamation of the Word

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ISAIAH Isaiah 35.1-10 page 695-696
Hear what the Spirit says to the Church. **Thanks be to God.**

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF JAMES
James 5.7-10 page 1175
Hear what the Spirit says to the Church. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation Hymn 485 "Love Divine" Verse 1 & 2

Love Divine

The Lord be with you. And also with you.
The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

Matthew 11.2-11 page 943-944

The Gospel of Christ. Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation Hymn485 "Love Divine" Verse 5 & 6

Love Divine

Sermon The Reverend Canon John Anderson

Give glory to God forever, O praise the Lord with joyful voice; Give glory to God forever, O praise the Lord, rejoice!

Come bless the Lord who gives us love, the Son of God from heaven above; Let all rise up in great acclaim to praise the Lord on high!

Give glory to God forever, O praise the Lord with joyful song; Give glory to God forever, O praise the Lord, rejoice!

Proclaim the mighty King, let your music loudly ring; Hear the singing we are bringing to the Lord who reigns on high!

Gloria! Gloria! Give glory to God! Gloria! Gloria! Give glory to the Lord! Give glory to God forever, O praise the Lord with joyful song; Give glory to God forever, O praise the Lord, rejoice! O praise the mighty Lord! REJOICE!

Affirmation of Faith—The Nicene Creed BAS page 188

Celebrant Let us confess our faith, as we say,

All We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Musical Meditation Hymn 107 "Prepare the Way" Verse 1
Sung as a round

Prepare The Way

The Prayers of the People Beth Morum, Lay-Reader

Musical Meditation Hymn 107 "Prepare the Way" Verse 1
Sung as a round

Prepare The Way

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence may be kept.

Celebrant Most merciful God,

All we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.** (All may exchange a sign of peace with a bow, a smile but please no physical contact)

Offertory Hymn 91 "People Look East!"

Besancon

The Celebration of the Eucharist

The Prayer over the Offering

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Saviour and Lord. Amen. *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (2006) alt.

Eucharistic Prayer #3 BAS pg. 198

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in the fullness of time came among us in our flesh, and opened to us the way of salvation. Now we watch for the day when he will come again in power and great triumph to judge this world, that we, without shame or fear, may rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name.

Sanctus 719

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest

We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son.

For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, Father, according to his command, All we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and brings us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters, through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread BAS pg. 212

Celebrant God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom. Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

The Communion

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Agnus Dei 747

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, Bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world, give us your peace, give us your peace.

Communion

"While We Are Waiting, Come" see back of bulletin for music

Don Cason

While we are waiting, come; While we are waiting, come. Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

With power and glory, come; With power and glory, come. Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

Come, Savior, quickly come; Come, Savior, quickly come. Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, some.

Solo "A Carol for Advent"

Miranda Taverner-Hunnisett, soloist

Mary E. Caldwell

Who shall come in the fullness of time to gladden the hearts of men? Who shall bring new joy to the world, and the poor and lonely defend?

Who shall come on a cold winter's night, when the world is hushed and still? Only the silent stars keep watch as a promise is fulfilled.

Just as a child newly born, he shall come to a stable rough with sod, 'tis gentle Jesus, Prince of Peace, the blessed Son of God! The blessed Son of God!

Prayer after Communion

God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen. *Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006) alt.*

Glory to God BAS pg 214

Glory to God,

Whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

Blessing

Sung Benediction "A Clare Benediction"

Alex Teske, soloist

John Rutter

May the Lord show his mercy upon you; may the light of his presence be your guide: May he guard you and uphold you; may his Spirit be ever by your side. When you sleep, may his angels watch over you; when you wake, may he fill you with his grace. May you love him and serve him all your days. Then in heaven may you see his face.

May the Lord's loving kindness surround you; keep you safe as you journey on your way: May he lead you and inspire you as he grants you the gift of each new day. May he bless all your loved ones and cherish them; every friend, every stranger at your door: In the name of the Son, our Saviour, Christ. May God bless you, now and evermore.

Announcements

Recessional Hymn 111 "Herald! Sound the Note of Judgement"

Neander

Dismissal

Go in peace. Wait for the Lord with patience, and stand firm.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

<u>Postlude</u> "Christmas Morn" *Jeff Campbell, organ*

arr. G.F. Handel

We wish to thank Miranda Hunnisett, Alex Teske and The St. James Choir for sharing their musical gifts with us this morning.

Advent Meditation

True repentance, then, is not an expression of fear, self-hate or of a neurotic sense of guilt, but an ordinary, simple, natural way of loving God. It is a meeting with God, who has loved us infinitely, whom we love and whose beauty and perfection we long to see, from whom we are separated by sin. True repentance, holy repentance, is the way of love. It is only possible when we stand before the face of God and are moved "out of our minds," beyond the confines of our little narrow selves, by our longing for him.

Irma Zaleski
<u>The Way of Repentance</u>, Novalis/Continuum 1999

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Sunday 10 a.m. services are recorded and posted to YouTube

Candles Glowing, Promise Showing



While We Are Waiting Come

Words by Claire Cloninger Music by Don Cason

